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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT	Organization and Activities of Militia in the Put'ien Area	DATE DISTR.	8 August 1955
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BY CABLE

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFENSIVE. APPROPRIATE CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. [] the militia in the Put'ien (N 25-26, E 119-00) area was equipped with 20 bolt-action rifles and four pistols. The rifles were Chinese-manufactured, and the ammunition clip contained five rounds. The militiamen were billeted in civilian homes; militia headquarters was also in a private home. Militiamen received a regular rice ration, but morale and health were poor because there was a shortage of rice and vegetables. 25X1
2. The militia was directly under the hsiang chief, CHENG Wen-kuei (6774/2429/6311), who was elected by the villagers. CHENG directed the operations of the militia through two officers, CHENG Chin-chu (6774/6855/3796) and his assistant CHANG A-yu (1728/7093/1946). The officers wore no uniforms or insignia. 25X1
3. The militia was divided into two groups, special and common militia. The special militia was composed of men between the ages of 18 and 25 years; men between the ages of 26 and 45 years were in the common militia. There were 50 men in the special militia and 70 men in the common militia. The members of the militia were from three adjoining villages: Tungpan (N 25-10, E 119-06), Hsutso, and Houman (0683/3341).
4. The special militia patrolled the village area and the adjoining beach. The common militia patrolled one li of the beach. Only the special militia received training in the use of weapons; nevertheless members of the common militia carried rifles while on duty.
5. One-hour meetings were held bi-monthly for the militia. The topics stressed were alertness while on duty and increased crop production.
6. Barbed wire was erected on the beaches in the area of Put'ien, but they were not mined. The beach was patrolled between 2000 and 0600 hours.

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